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**Fax Transmission** | October 17, 2002

TO: Commissioner for Patents  
Attn: Examiner J. Baxter  
Patent Examining Corps  
Facsimile Center - TC3700  
Washington, D.C. 20231

FROM: Nancy J. Parsons

OUR REF: 6683.44US01  
TELEPHONE: 612.336.4769

Total pages, including cover letter: 9

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Title of Document Transmitted: AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Applicant: BAGGA  
Serial No.: 09/631,502  
Filed: August 3, 2000  
Group Art Unit: 3731  
Our Ref. No.: 6683.44US01

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By: Nancy J. Parsons  
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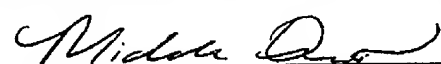
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PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Bagga	Examiner:	J. Baxter
Serial No.:	09/631,502	Group Art Unit:	3731
Filed:	August 3, 2000	Docket No.:	6683.44US01
Title:	DISTRACTING AND CURETTING INSTRUMENT		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: TC3700, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 17, 2002.

  
By: Michele Quaranto**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**VIA FACSIMILE**  
**TC3700**  
**703-872-9302**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 17, 2002, please amend the above-referenced application for patent as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 8 to read as set forth below:

1. (Amended) A surgical instrument comprising:
- a proximal end spaced along a shaft from a distal end and a longitudinal axis passing therethrough;
  - a working head at said distal end, said working head comprising:
    - a. a blade having a serpentoid configuration in cross-section and having a leading end and a trailing end spaced apart along said blade,